

HOUSING AUTHORITY of the City of Long Beach



### Family Self-Sufficiency

FSS GRADS RECEIVE A COMBINED ESCROW OF OVER \$200,000!

On March 14, 2017 participants of the Self-Sufficiency program will be recognized for their successful program completion during the Housing Authority Commission. Held in the City Council Chamber of City Hall, 20 FSS participants will be acknowledged by city council members for completing their goals, obtaining and/or maintaining employment and being free of any cash welfare benefit. The highest check awarded will be over \$34,000 and tax-free! Graduates will receive a certificate and have their picture taken with their council representative. These hard working recipients have used this lump sum to increase credit scores, obtain education degrees and become financially independent.

The FSS program is a 5-year commitment for Housing Choice Voucher (commonly known as

Section 8) assisted families. The head of household creates their own goals overcome challenges employment such as education, transportation, child care, financial and reading literacy, etc. When a participant's income increases their rent portion goes up. For every income increase from new employment or better employment, HUD saves that increased portion in an escrow (savings) account for the family. If all of the requirements of the program are met, after 5 years the participant will graduate from the program and receive a check for the amount earned in that 5-year period. Anyone who is currently receiving Section 8 rental assistance in the City of Long Beach and not already graduated, is eligible to enroll. Families on the waiting list are not eligible until they are leased-

For more information, contact one of our FSS Specialists below:

FSS Specialists Tenant Last Name
Rose Usher (A-HOK)
(562) 570-6025
Rose.usher@longbeach.gov

Lisa Gager (HOL-PHAN) (562) 570-6145 Lisa.gager@longbeach.gov

Nadith Schuster (PHAO-Z) (562) 570-6697 Nadith.schuster@longbeach.gov

FSS Program Lead Sundaram Rama (562) 570-5485 Sundaram.rama@longbeach.gov



### **Change in Office Hours**

Effective Wednesday, March 15, 2017 the Housing Authority will have only lobby hours from 7:30am-10:30am every Wednesday. Clients may drop off documents in the document drop box and/or leave a message for staff by phone but there will be no reception hours between 7:30am – 10:30am on Wednesdays. Please note office hours will be as follows:

Monday 7:30am – 5:00pm

 $Tuesday \hspace{1.5cm} 7{:}30am-5{:}00pm$ 

Wednesday 7:30am – 10:30am Lobby Access Only for Document Drop-off

10:30am - 5:00pm

**Thursday** 7:30am – 5:00pm

Friday 7:30am – 4:00pm

Please note that during lobby hours only there will be access to the document drop box and limited forms. Document receipts and staff will not be available. We thank you for your understanding as we seek to increase continuing education opportunities for staff.



### **Major Inspection Changes**

Beginning March 1, 2017 the HACLB will begin conducting biennial inspections by zip code. This means that instead of inspecting units once a year, we will inspect every other year and instead of 10-12 months after the last inspection, it will be done by zip code. This change is a result of the Housing and Urban Development's

#### PARTICIPANT NEWSLETTER

(HUD) effort to reduce administrative burden and costs.

What this means for owners and tenants is this, we are coming out to see your unit less often. It is still expected that the unit will be maintained in good condition at all times. For new units to the program and or those that have already been inspected in recent months, it may mean that we inspect your unit again to get it on the zip code schedule. We apologize for this inconvenience and will do all we can to accommodate your needs.

For owners who have multiple units in a building and/or zip code, we will work with you in this transitional phase. To ensure that units pass, it is always encouraged that owners preinspect for commonly failed items. If extensions are needed, they must be requested in writing prior to the reinspection date.

The rent increase form can be obtained from our website at: <a href="http://www.longbeach.gov/haclb/reso">http://www.longbeach.gov/haclb/reso</a> urces/forms/

For the request for extension form please email Saulo or Sophy at the emails below. This form will be available on our website soon.

#### Saulo.amezquita@longbeach.gov

#### Sophy.chhoy@longbeach.gov

Please note that repeated abatements or emergency health and safety violations may result in a unit being removed from the biennial inspection schedule and return to an annual inspection.

Zip Code	Month/year		
90805	March – April 2017		
90813	July – September 2017		
90806	November – January 2018		
90804	March – April 2018		

90802 June –July 2018

90810 September – October 2018

90803, 07, 08, 14 and 15 Dec. 2018

## Am I able to request additional inspection?

Anyone may request a Special Inspection at any time. The PHA may also conduct Special Inspections and/or Quality Control Inspections at their discretion to address issues such as Reasonable Accommodation for medical purposes or/and request for additional bedrooms.

# Are Owners able to request additional time for repairs?

HACLB will continue to work with owners and residents if either need additional time to conduct repairs due to bad weather conditions, unavailability of parts, or other uncontrollable circumstances on a case by case basis.

In this initial phase, we may grant extensions if the owner feels that s/he does not have enough time to complete all the repairs in his/her building in the same zip code.

# How can I ensure my unit passes inspection?

Here is a link to the most commonly failed items and a pre-inspection checklist:

http://www.longbeach.gov/haclb/owners-and-agents/inspections/



### **IMPORTANT NUMBERS**

**Bureau Manager** 

Alison King 570-6153

Special Projects Officer
Kieshia Nathaniel 570-6616

Inspections Supervisor
Saulo Amezquita 5705301

Occupancy Supervisor

Joi Dailey 570-6365

Intake Supervisor

Mechell Roberts 5706285

Inspections Scheduler
Sophy Choy 570-5303

Rent Reasonableness

Debbi Brown 570-5307

Move Specialist
Xochitl Ortega 570-6409

Ownership Specialist
Sergio Navarro Jr. 5706897



- New Healthy Foods!
- \*Breastfeeding Support
- Nutrition Education
  - Referrals

Women, Infants, & Children under 5 years old may qualify! Working families can apply!

## **WIC Income Guideline Table**

185% Federal Poverty Level Effective May 18, 2016 - June 30, 2017

Gross Income						
Number of persons in Family Unit **	Annual	Monthly	Twice Monthly	Bi-Weekly	Weekly	
1	\$21,978	\$1,832	\$916	\$846	\$423	
2	\$29,637	\$2,470	\$1,235	\$1,140	\$570	
3	\$37,296	\$3,108	\$1,554	\$1,435	\$718	
4	\$44,955	\$3,747	\$1,874	\$1,730	\$865	
5	\$52,614	\$4,385	\$2,193	\$2,024	\$1,012	
6	\$60,273	\$5,023	\$2,512	\$2,319	\$1,160	
7	\$67,951	\$5,663	\$2,832	\$2,614	\$1,307	
8	\$75,647	\$6,304	\$3,152	\$2,910	\$1,455	
Each add'l family member add	\$7,696 per added family member	\$642 per added family member	\$321 per added family member	\$296 per added family member	\$148 per added family member	

Visit one of our 5 locations: 1043 Elm Avenue, Suite 401, 90813 2525 Grand Avenue, 90815 5166 Atlantic Avenue, 90805 2125 Santa Fe Avenue, 90810 1133 Rhea Street, 90806





(562) 570-4242 health-wic@longbeach.gov

